b.) Remarks

The claims are amended to still further reduce the issues.

In the October 31, 2003 Advisory Action, the Examiner wrote

> "none of the claims state that the claimed film is adapted to adhere and dissolve in the mouth", [and]... "the term "solid" is not disclosed or suggested in the specification as filed."

The Examiner also writes that the ratio of pharmaceutical active agent to taste making agent is not disclosed in the specification as filed.

In response, the phrase "adapted to adhere to and dissolve in a mouth", previously found in the preamble, is now moved to the body of the claims.

As to the objection to the term "solid", Applicants respectfully wish to point out that those of ordinary skill are plainly well-aware the embodiments discussed in the application are solid. In particular, *throughout* the specification it is taught that the mixed uniform gel is cast on a substrate and dried. For instance, see page 23, lines 15-19 wherein the dried film was "cut to a desired dimension" or "segmented". See also page 29, lines 21-26, etc. A *cut segmented dried film* is necessarily solid and not liquid or gas.

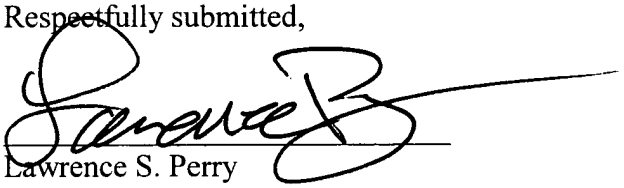
As to the objection that the ratio of pharmaceutically active agent to ion exchange resin (taught at specification page 17, lines 15-28) does not teach a ratio of active agent to taste making agent, such is not especially well-understood. That is, the specification both explicitly and consistently teaches the ion-exchange resin is the preferred

taste making agent.[1/] See, e.g., the title, specification page 1, lines 6-9, etc. Nonetheless, solely in order to reduce the issues and expedite prosecution herein, such phrase has been deleted from claim 1.

Entry hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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1/ As recited, e.g., in claims 14, 19, etc.